

CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE

Highlights 2007



State of California
Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor



California Department of Food and Agriculture
A.G. Kawamura, Secretary

1220 N Street, 4th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone (916) 654-0462
www.cdfa.ca.gov

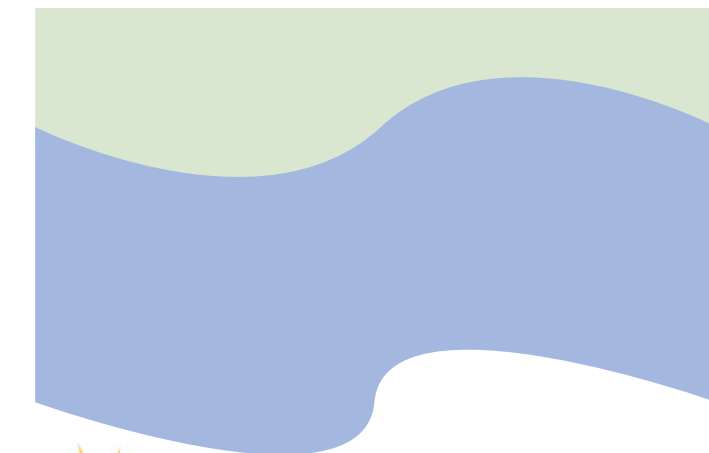
2008



Be Californian. Buy California Grown.



Contra Costa Sniffer Dogs Help
Keep Invasive Pests Out of California



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

“It’s critical that state and local governments work together to craft practical and workable solutions to challenges that face our state. That’s why we are happy to highlight the work being done by our partners — California’s Department of Pesticide Regulation and the state’s county agricultural commissioners and sealers.” - A.G. Kawamura



CDFA SECRETARY
A.G. KAWAMURA



CDPR DIRECTOR
MARY-ANN WARMERDAM

You are invited to read further in this brochure about some of California agriculture’s impressive production highlights. In reviewing the numbers, however, it is important to keep in mind that statistics alone do not define the industry. It is also defined by innovators and visionaries: Farmers and ranchers, men and women who seek new and better ways to produce food and fiber of the highest quality and with the greatest care for the environment.

Ensuring a Safe, Affordable and Abundant Food Supply

Today, as fourth- and fifth-generation farming families forge ahead with new agricultural practices and innovations, they are implementing their own unique vision that will ensure a vibrant agricultural economy for our state. This unique blend of tradition and innovation is how California remains the nation’s most agriculturally productive state. California now produces more than 400 commodities, and we produced \$32 billion in direct farm sales in 2006.

For 89 years, the California Department of Food and Agriculture has worked to protect and promote California agriculture and provide the highest level of service to the public. The department is proud to fulfill this mission in a manner that encourages farming, ranching and agribusiness, while protecting consumers and our environment.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture has a diverse mission to:

- Ensure that only safe and quality food reaches the consumer.
- Protect against invasion of exotic pests and diseases.
- Ensure an equitable and orderly marketplace for California’s agricultural products.
- Promote increased consumption of California-grown food and fiber.
- Build coalitions supporting the state’s agricultural infrastructure to meet evolving industry needs.

The department is organized into six divisions that provide valuable services to producers, merchants and the public. Many of the services described below are conducted in partnership with local county agricultural commissioner offices.

Animal Health and Food Safety Services – promotes food safety and protects public and animal health.

Fairs and Expositions – supports the local efforts of nearly 80 fairs statewide.

Inspection Services – ensures that commodities meet quality and labeling standards.

Marketing Services – oversees California agricultural marketing programs and 56 promotional boards.

Measurement Standards – certifies devices that weigh or measure commodities so that consumers “get what they paid for.”

Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services – protects California from exotic and invasive plant pests and diseases.

Feeding California and the World

California is the world’s fifth largest supplier of food and agricultural commodities. We produce everything from world-renowned wines to specialty items such as almonds and strawberries.

For more than 50 years, the men and women who work California’s fertile fields have made this state the nation’s No. 1 agricultural producer and exporter. If it’s for breakfast, lunch, or dinner, it was probably grown right here in California.

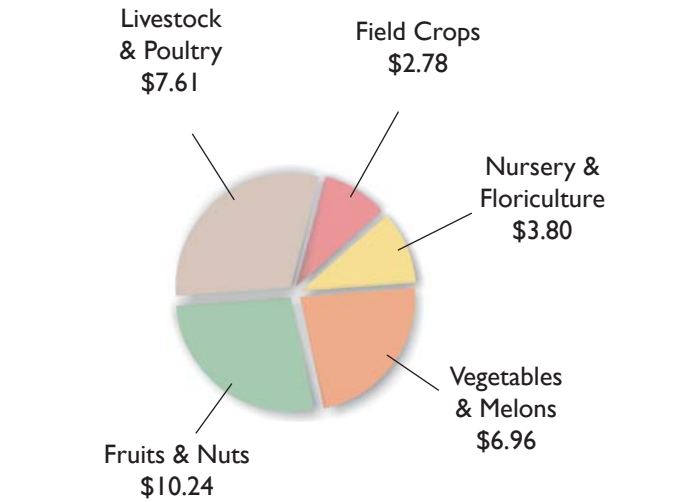
Grown Only in California

California is the nation’s sole producer (99 percent or more) of a large number of specialty crops.

- Almonds
 - Clingstone Peaches
 - Figs
 - Persimmons
 - Raisins
 - Sweet Rice
- Artichokes
 - Dried Plums
 - Olives
 - Pomegranates
 - Seed, Ladino Clover
 - Walnuts

California’s Gross Cash Income, 2006

Total: \$31.4 Billion



Specialty Crops Dominate Agricultural Production

Production year 2006 saw a 4 percent drop in the sales value of the state’s products. Despite the decline in revenue, milk remained the No. 1 farm commodity, and the Golden State retained its ranking as the nation’s leading dairy producer by a wide margin, producing 21 percent of the U.S. milk supply.

California’s agricultural abundance includes 400 different commodities. Among these, the state produces about half of U.S. - grown fruits, nuts and vegetables. Almond crops increased 22 percent to a record 1.15 billion pounds.

California has 76,000 farms and ranches — less than 4 percent of the nation’s total. Yet, the Golden State’s agricultural production represents 13.1 percent of the nation’s total value. California’s top 20 crop and livestock commodities accounted for more than \$25 billion in value. Each of the top 10 commodities exceeded \$1 billion in value. Avocados joined the top 20 list for 2006 and milk remained the No. 1 commodity, followed by grapes and nursery/greenhouse products.

California’s Top 20 Commodities, 2006

	(Millions)
1. Milk and Cream	\$4,492
2. Grapes	3,033
3. Nursery	2,775
4. Almonds	2,040
5. Cattle and Calves	1,676
6. Lettuce	1,608
7. Strawberries	1,194
8. Tomatoes	1,139
9. Floriculture	1,020
10. Hay	1,003
11. Oranges	633
12. Chickens	630
13. Broccoli	599
14. Cotton	557
15. Walnuts	554
16. Rice	464
17. Carrots	463
18. Pistachios	455
19. Lemons	375
20. Avocados	342

Global Marketplace

California’s agricultural exports reached another new record with nearly \$9.8 billion in 2006. This represents a 5 percent increase from 2006. In 2006, 24 percent of California’s agricultural production was shipped to overseas markets.

California sells agricultural products to nearly 150 countries, but the 10 top destinations accounted for 85 percent of the 2006 export value. Three destinations — the European Union, Canada and Japan — accounted for nearly 60 percent of the total.

Even though the main market for California agricultural production is still the rest of the nation, foreign markets have become more important in the past six years. In 1999, only 16 percent of the local production was being shipped to overseas markets, whereas in 2006 this figure was 24 percent.

It is the quality, freshness and unparalleled flavor of California’s food products that makes California’s agriculture exports enjoyed around the world. With key international markets in Europe, Asia and North America, California agriculture is a “taste of sunshine” enjoyed by millions.

California’s Top 10 Agricultural Export Markets, 2006

Rank/Country	Value (Millions)	Leading Exports
1. European Union	\$2,071	Almonds, Wine, Pistachios
2. Canada	1,879	Lettuce, Strawberries, Processed Tomatoes
3. Japan	964	Rice, Almonds, Hay
4. China/Hong Kong	611	Cotton, Almonds,Table Grapes
5. Mexico	562	Dairy, Table Grapes, Processed Tomatoes
6. South Korea	312	Oranges, Grapefruit, Walnuts
7. Taiwan	241	Cotton, Beef and Products, Peaches and Nectarines
8. India	203	Almonds, Cotton, Table Grapes
9. Australia	99	Walnuts, Table Grapes, Oranges
10. United Arab Emirates	94	Almonds, Table Grapes, Walnuts

California’s Counties Lead the Nation

California has some of the most agriculturally productive counties in the nation. Of the top 10 agricultural producing counties nationwide, nine are located in California.

In 2006, Fresno remained the No. 1 county in the nation with \$4.84 billion in agricultural value. Thirteen of the state’s counties recorded more than \$1 billion in agricultural value according to their county agricultural commissioner crop reports.

California’s Top 10 Agricultural Counties, 2006

	(Millions)
1. Fresno (grapes, almonds, tomatoes, poultry cattle and calves)	\$4,843
2. Tulare (milk, oranges, cattle and calves, grapes, alfalfa hay and silage)	3,871
3. Monterey (leaf and head lettuce, strawberries, nursery, broccoli)	3,490
4. Kern (almonds, grapes, milk, carrots and citrus)	3,477
5. Merced (milk, chickens, almonds, cattle and calves, tomatoes,)	2,284
6. Stanislaus (milk, almonds, cattle and calves, chicken, walnuts)	2,148
7. San Joaquin (milk, grapes, tomatoes, almonds, walnuts)	1,685
8. Ventura (strawberries, lemons, celery, woody ornamentals, tomatoes)	1,506
9. San Diego (flower and foliage plants, trees and shrubs, bedding plants, avocados, tomatoes)	1,461
10. Imperial (cattle, alfalfa, carrots, leaf and head lettuce)	1,308

